



WHS
Regional
Meeting

Cochrane Collaboration at the World Health Summit Regional Meeting

25th - 27th April, 2025



Cochrane
India



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KEYNOTE

Improving Neonatal health - A case study from India

25th April 2025
10:45 am to 12:15pm

Chair



Prof. Vinod k. Paul,
Member, Niti Aayog.

Co-Chair



Dr. Rajiv Bahl,
Secy. DHR & DG, ICMR

Moderator



Dr. Anju Sinha
ICMR

Speakers



Dr. Roderico Ofrin,
WHO



Dr. Janhavi Nilekani,
Aastrika Foundation



Dr. Karla Soares,
Cochrane Central



Dr. Meenu Singh,
AIIMS Rishikesh



Dr. Sally Green,
Cochrane Australia



Dr. Sunil Sazawal,
CPHK, Delhi



Dr. Sushma Nangia,
LHMC, Delhi



Dr. Vivek V. Singh,
UNICEF, Delhi



Dr. Vishwajeet Kumar,
CEL, UP

Workshop

Concept and application of Cochrane systematic review for clinical practice and healthcare policy

This workshop will cover steps of Cochrane meta-analysis and how to understand and use the evidence in health care decision making by various stakeholders including policy makers.

Chair

Prof. Anju Sinha

Co-chair, Cochrane India Network
Director, ICMR- Cochrane affiliate centre, ICMR, New Delhi.



Moderator

Prof. Raghuwar Dayal Singh

King George's Medical University,
DHR-MRU, KGMU, Lucknow, India



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Prof. Balendra Pratap Singh	Cochrane Affiliate centre King George's Medical University, Lucknow, India	Dentistry
Prof. Hardeep Singh Malhotra	Cochrane Affiliate centre King George's Medical University, Lucknow, India	Neurology
Prof. Neeraj Kumar	Cochrane Affiliate centre King George's Medical University, Lucknow, India	Neurology



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Workshop

Bridging Evidence and Equity: A Hands-On Workshop on Meta-Analysis and Network Meta-Analysis

Network meta-analysis (NMA) is an advanced evidence synthesis method that allows the simultaneous comparison of multiple interventions or diagnostic tests within a single analytical framework. Unlike traditional meta-analysis, which focuses on pairwise comparisons, NMA provides rankings to determine the most effective or accurate options, addressing the critical question of which intervention or test is best.

Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Meenu Singh, Executive Director and CEO, Organization: AIIMS, Rishikesh,



Moderator

Dr. Prateek Kumar Panda, Associate Professor
Organization: AIIMS, Rishikesh,



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Prof. Meenu Singh	AIIMS, Rishikesh	Pediatric pulmonology, Evidence Based Medicine (EBM), telemedicine
Dr. Prateek Kumar Panda	AIIMS, Rishikesh	Pediatric Neurology, EBM
Dr. Anil Chauhan	PGIMER, Chandigarh	EBM, Telemedicine

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Workshop

Evidence and Gap Map on maternal and neonatal health

The session will demonstrate the practical application of EGMs in evidence-based decision-making, research prioritization, and policy formulation, offering a valuable resource for understanding complex evidence landscapes and guiding future research efforts to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality.

Chair

Dr. Anju Sinha

Co-chair, Cochrane India Network
Director, ICMR- Cochrane affiliate centre, ICMR, New Delhi



Moderator

Dr. Komal Shah

Associate Professor
Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Public Health- Gandhinagar



Speaker	Area of expertise
Dr. Bhumika TV	Evidence synthesis
Ms. Suchi Kapoor Malhotra	Evidence synthesis, Monitoring

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Workshop

How to Write a Protocol for Systematic Review

Systematic reviews are a cornerstone of evidence-based practice, playing a pivotal role in summarizing the available evidence for clinicians, policymakers, and researchers. This one-day workshop aims to equip participants with the skills needed to write a protocol for systematic reviews, from formulating research questions to adhering to international guidelines. This workshop will focus on hands-on learning and practical demonstrations to enable participants to create a detailed and structured protocol by the end of the day.

Chair

Dr. Vijay Prakash Mathur,

Professor of Paediatric and Preventive Dentistry,
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi/Clinical,



Moderator

Dr. Sumit Malhotra

Professor of Community Medicine,
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Dr. Sumit Malhotra	AIIMS. New Delhi	Systematic reviews and meta-analysis methodology
Dr. Hemanshu	AIIMS. New Delhi	Cochrane reviews Prabhakar
Dr. Kunaal Dhingra	AIIMS. New Delhi	Systematic reviews and meta-analysis
Dr. Sachit Anand	AIIMS. New Delhi	Systematic reviews and meta-analysis
Dr Pradeep Kumar	AIIMS. New Delhi	Systematic reviews and meta-analysis



<https://forms.gle/j3qM971UEbPK4ocH9>

Panel Discussion

Impact of Oral Health on Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes: An Evidence - Based Approach

Poor oral health during pregnancy, including periodontal diseases, has been linked to adverse maternal outcomes such as preeclampsia, gestational diabetes, and preterm birth, as well as neonatal conditions like low birth weight. Despite its significance, the integration of oral health into maternal and neonatal care policies remains limited. This session aims to explore evidence-based strategies for improving oral health outcomes among pregnant women and neonates, while addressing existing gaps in policy and practice.

Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Meenu Singh, Executive Director and CEO, Organization: AIIMS, Rishikesh,



Moderator

Dr. Neeta Mohanty
Siksha 'O' Anusandhan, Specialization Dentistry,



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Dr Lora Mishra	Institute of Dental Sciences, Cochrane India Affiliate Centre	Dentistry, Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Caries
Dr Dharmashree Manish	Institute of Dental Sciences	Public Health and Community Dentistry
Dr Swati Acharya	Institute of Dental Sciences	Dept. Of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopaedics
Dr Priyanka Kalimi Reddy	Institute of Dental Sciences	Dept of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry
Dr Manoj Kumar	Institute of Dental Sciences	Department of periodontics and implantology

Panel Discussion

Life and Health Beyond Motherhood: A Mandate for Holistic Approach to Women's Health & Well-Being

A comprehensive approach to women's health is crucial for enhancing quality of life and achieving better health outcomes. Creating a conducive policy environment and preparing health systems to address these issues is critical. Understanding the psychosocial, and systemic barriers faced by women particularly during later phase beyond reproductive age can significantly improve their quality of life and overall well-being.

Chair

Smt. Aradhana Patnaik ,
IAS, Additional Secretary & MD (NHM), Ministry
of Health & Family Welfare, GOI.



Moderator

Dr Nomita Chandhiok
former Senior Deputy Director General, ICMR, New Delhi



Speaker	Organization
Dr Poonam Goyal	Chairperson Safe Motherhood Committee, FOGSI (Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecological Societies of India)
Mr Yutaro Setoya,	Team lead, NCD, WHO India
Dr. Prabha S. Chandra	Senior Professor of Psychiatry and Dean of Behavior Science; NIMHANS
Dr. Manohar Agnani	Former Additional Secretary, MoHFW, GoI

Panel Discussion

Foundations for a healthy future: strategic actions for comprehensive preconception care

Preconception care is a vital intervention for improving neonatal and birth outcomes. With 2.4 million babies affected by neonatal and birth disorders each year globally, addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach across the entire care continuum—preconception, prenatal, and postnatal. This approach recognizes that the period preceding conception is critical for the health and development of the future child. Preconception care encompasses a range of interventions, including health promotion, risk assessment, and the management of pre-existing conditions.

Chair

Dr Priti Kumar,

Chairperson Maternal and Perinatal Health Committee, SAFOG, VP Elect (North Zone), FOGSI.



Moderator

Dr Aarti Srivastava,

Research Scientist , ICMR.



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Dr. Anchita Patil	Lead MNCH, BMGF India	Maternal and Newborn health
Dr.Sangappa M Dhaded	J.N.Medical College, Belgaum	Neonatology
Dr Geetanjali Katageri	Department of OBG, SNMC and HSK Hospital and Research Centre, Karnataka	Adolescent Health
Dr. Parag Bhamare	Maternal and Newborn Health, Jhpiego	Maternal & Newborn Health
Dr.Hemang Shah	, Child Health and Development, Children's Investment Fund Foundation	Child Health and Development
Dr. Mubashir Angolkar	Dept of Public Health, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, KAHER	Public Health

Panel Discussion

Ending Preventable Neonatal Mortality- Evidence to Action

India witnesses more than 500,000 new born deaths every year mostly due to complications related to prematurity, birth asphyxia and neonatal sepsis. Many of these are preventable through improved implementation of evidence based practices (EBPs). Govt. of India has rolled out several programs which include these EBPs. However, surveys and observational studies have identified inadequate coverage, quality and equity of these EBPs due to implementation level gaps which result in poor maternal and neonatal outcomes.

Chair

Dr. N . K. Arora,

Executive Director, NCLN Trust International



Moderator

Dr Amlin Shukla,

Scientist E, Division of Delivery Research,
ICMR, New Delhi.



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Dr. Shobhna Gupta	Deputy Commissioner, Child Health, MoHFW	Policy Decisions, Pediatrics
Dr. Ramesh Agarwal	Head Neonatology, AIIMS, New Delhi	Neonatology, Implementation Research
Dr. Vishwajeet Kumar	Chief Scientist, CEL, Lucknow	Implementation Research, Maternal and Child Health
NHA Representative	National Health Authority	Digital Health Platforms
Dr Deepak Chawla,	Prof. Neonatology, GMC, Chandigarh	Neonatology
Dr. Ashoo Grover,	Head IR, ICMR	Community medicine and IR

Panel Discussion

Cochrane India Network & Cochrane Central Dialogue Shaping the Cochrane Colloquium 2026

The Cochrane India Network (CIN), established in 2021, comprises nine affiliate centers across India. In October 2024, Cochrane India announced that it would host the Cochrane Colloquium in October 2026 at the Institute of Dental Sciences, Siksha O Anusandhan University, Bhubaneswar. The colloquium will focus on themes such as bridging gaps, global evidence, local impact, and equitable action, aiming to address health disparities and promote equitable healthcare solutions worldwide.



Dr. Meenu Singh,

Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS
Rishikesh Co-Chair CIN

Chairs



Dr. Anju Sinha,

Director, ICMR- Cochrane Affiliate
Center Co-Chair CIN

Moderator

Dr Lora Mishra

Institute of Dental Sciences, Cochrane India Affiliate Centre



Speaker	Organization
Dr. Karla Soares	Editor-in-Chief, The Cochrane Library, Cochrane Collaboration
Dr. Sally Green	Co-Director of the Cochrane Australia
Dr. Neeta Mohanty	Director, Cochrane Affiliate Centre, IDS, Siksha O Anusandhan, Bhubaneswar
Prof. Dr. Cherian Varghese	Director, Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH), MAHE, Manipal
Dr. Mohan S Kamath	Christian Medical College Vellore, Ida Scudder Road.
Dr GVS Murthy	President, PRASHO
Dr Balendra Pratap	Cochrane Affiliate Centre KGMU, Lucknow.
Dr. Tejpal Gupta	Tata Memorial Centre, Navi Mumbai.
Dr. Sumit Malhotra	All India Institute of Medical Sciences. New Delhi

Panel Discussion

Role of complementary/ traditional medicine in MNCH

Complementary and traditional medicine (CTM) plays a significant role in maternal, neonatal, and child health (MNCH), particularly in low- and middle-income countries where cultural practices and limited healthcare access influence health-seeking behaviors. It encompasses diverse practices, including herbal remedies, acupuncture, yoga, and spiritual healing, often integrated with conventional medicine and occasionally found more acceptable since it is deeply ingrained in socio-cultural practices. Bridging the gap between CTM and modern medicine is vital to optimize MNCH outcomes and ensure safe practices.

Moderator

Dr A.G.Radhika,

Consultant ObGyn, UCMS & GTB Hospital, Delhi



Chairpersons	Speaker
Session 1- Dr Kousthuba Upadhyaya Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH Dr Debashish Panda Joint Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH	Session 1 - Dr Deepak Londhe Poshan Abhiyaan, Ministry of Women & Child Development
Session 2 - Dr Sangeeta A Duggal Advisor, Homeopathy, Ministry of AYUSH Dr Renuka Taneja Joint Director (Ayush)-CGHS, MOHFW	Session 2 -Dr Varanasi Roja Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, Ministry of Ayush
Session 3 - Dr Raman Kapoor , Director, Institute of Acupuncture and natural medicines (IANM) Dr Taruna Scientist 'D', Division of RCN, ICMR	Session 3 –Dr Sunita Kapoor Director, Institute of Acupuncture and natural medicines (IANM)
Session 4 - Dr Amita Suneja , Head & Dir Prof, Obstetrics & Gynecology, UCMS & GTB Hospital. Dr Ashok Kumar, Head & Dir Prof, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Dr. RML Hospital.	Session 4 - Dr Ramavatar Sharma Department of Swasthavritta & Yoga, All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi

Panel Discussion

Women's Cancer Burden in India: Prioritization for Prevention & Control

Breast cancer has overtaken cervical cancer as the most common cancer in Indian women. A significant proportion of women's cancers are detected in advanced stages leading to sub-optimal outcomes despite aggressive multi-modality therapies with substantial resource implications and health-economic burden.

Chair

Dr Goura Kishor Rath,

Ex-Director, Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH), AIIMS, Delhi.



Moderator

Dr Tejpal Gupta,

Professor & Head, Radiation Oncology, ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai.



Speaker	Organization	Area of expertise
Dr Prashant Mathur	Director, NCDIR -ICMR, Bengaluru	Cancer Epidemiology
Dr Sudeep Gupta	Director, Tata Memorial Centre, Parel, Mumbai	Breast Medical Oncology
Dr Gauravi Mishra	Professor & Deputy Director, CCE-ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai.	Preventive Oncology
Panel Discussion (45min) Roadmap for achieving Equitable, Accessible, and Affordable Cancer Care for All.		
Dr Anusheel Munshi	Director, Radiation Oncology, IOCI Fortis, Noida	Radiation Oncology
Dr Durgatosh Pandey	Head, Surgical Oncology, Manipal Hospital, Delhi	Surgical Oncology
Dr Daya Nand Sharma,	Executive Director, AIIMS, Rewari, Delhi-NCR	Radiation Oncology

World Health Summit Regional Meeting 2025



WHS
Regional
Meeting

2025
25-27 April
New Delhi

Bharat Mandapam - Convention Centre
New Delhi, India

April 25-27, 2025

Scaling Access to Ensure Health Equity

70+ SESSIONS

400+ SPEAKERS

80+ NATIONS

3000+ ATTENDEES
EXPECTED

WHS Regional Meeting 2025

The WHS Regional Meeting 2025 from April 25-27 in New Delhi convenes experts and leaders to work together towards building a healthier future for the region by addressing its most pressing challenges and promoting global health synergies, focusing on the overall theme "Scaling Access to Ensure Health Equity."

Salient Features

Global Health
Governance
Platform for the
Region

Shared
Resources for
Collective
Prosperity

Strengthening
Global South-
South
cooperation

Recognizing
Best Regional
Practices

Catalyze
Intersectoral
Cooperation

Enhance Youth
Engagement in
Setting Global
Health Agenda

Central Topics



Digital and AI Futures



Future of Health



Health and Peace



Innovation and Leadership



Women and Children's Health



Climate Change and Planetary Health



Health Diplomacy and Cooperation



Communication and Healthcare



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